Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01918 100813Z ACTION IO-14

R 100507Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8102 INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE USMISSION USUN NY

CONFIDENTIAL ABU DHABI 1918

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG

SUBJECT: UAE ATTENDANCE AT BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: ABU DHABI 1313

1. UAE FORIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI TOLD AMBASSADOR ON 9 JULY THAT UAE WILL ATTEND NON-ALIGNED FONMIN CONFERENCE BEING HELD IN BELGRADE BEGINNING JULY 24. UAE WILL BE REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS RASHID ABDULLAH. SUWAIDI REAFFIRMED EARLIER STATEMENT MADE TO US (REFTEL) THAT UAE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY NON-ALIGNED MEETING HELD IN HAVANA.

2. COMMENT: GIVEN UAE'S RELATIVELY PASSIVE DIPLOMATIC STYLE AND RAHID ABDULLAH'S OWN PEDESTRIAN PERSONALITY, WE DO NOT SEE UAE ASSUMING OR SEEKING ANY ROLE OF LEADERSHIP IN BELGRADE. INSTEAD, UAE DELEGATION WILL TAKE THEIR CUE FROM SAUDIS OR, IN THEIR ABSENCE, FROM KUWAITIS AND EGYPTIANS.

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Subject: UAE ATTENDANCE AT BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

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